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Lane Reductions for Next Stage of I-55-U.S. 41 Interchange Reconstruction

CHICAGO – The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) announced today that permanent lane closures and reductions will be put in place over several days starting next week for the ongoing reconstruction of the interchange between the Stevenson Expressway (Interstate 55) and Lake Shore Drive (U.S. 41) in Chicago.

Starting on Monday, Oct. 19, through Tuesday, Nov. 3, the following lane closures and reductions will occur, weather permitting:

- **Inbound Stevenson:** The three existing mainline lanes approaching the interchange will be reduced to two 11-foot wide lanes starting just east of the Dan Ryan Expressway (Interstate 90/94).
- **Inbound Stevenson to southbound Lake Shore Drive ramp:** The existing single lane will be reduced to an 11-foot width, with traffic shifted to the right side of the ramp.
- **25th Street from Martin Luther King Drive to Donnelly Drive/McCormick Place Busway:** The existing lanes will be reduced to 12-foot widths and shifted south. One lane will be maintained in each direction and street parking will be eliminated. Access to Donnelly Drive/McCormick Place Busway will be maintained.
- **The State Street ramp to the inbound Stevenson and Martin Luther King Drive exits:** All will remain open.

Some overnight lane closures will be required to establish the work zone. Once in place by Nov. 3, the new configuration will remain until Summer 2016.

Motorists can expect delays and should allow extra time for trips through this area. Drivers are urged to pay close attention to flaggers and signs in the work zones, obey the posted speed limits and be on the alert for workers and equipment.

Earlier this summer, IDOT started the \$133 million project to reconstruct and reconfigure the six bridges and ramps that form the interchange between the Lake Shore Drive and the Stevenson. The Lake Shore Drive ramps to the outbound Stevenson will be completed this year and next. Construction of the inbound Stevenson ramps to Lake Shore Drive will follow, with the entire project wrapping up in late 2017.